

Japanese ambassador, the Brazilian ambassador, the Argentine ambassador, and the Swedish, Danish, and Swiss ministers.

If the Navy Department has been given any orders to protect American shipping, there is no evidence of the fact. It was authoritatively denied that the department has any plan to convey American ships through the danger zone.

Increasing Import.

The status of the German merchantmen interned in various American ports is becoming a matter of increasing import, in view of the possibility that, in the event of war, the United States might want to seize them for the purpose of transporting troops to Europe.

Their actual status is not one of internment, but ships of a belligerent power that have taken refuge in American ports. Legally they could leave if they wanted to, but at their own risk.

A mild sensation spread through the capital with the receipt of press rumors that the crew of a German merchant vessel in the port of Charleston, S. C., had sunk the vessel this morning.

Conference Last Night.

Whatever action has been decided upon by the President was made known at a conference between him and the Secretary of State at the White House last night, lasting an hour and a half.

Upon his arrival at the State Department today, Mr. Lansing with the aid of Special Law Officer Lester H. Woolsey, who always assists in the preparation of diplomatic communications, went at once to work on the draft of a communication.

Secretary Lansing was with the President just an hour. Present at the conference also was Col. E. M. House, the President's confidential adviser, who hurried to Washington from New York on the midnight train last night, as soon as he was advised of the German note.

During the time the conference was in session, a crowd of newspaper correspondents and others stood about the main doorway of the Executive Mansion.

Across the front lawn came the constant clatter of hammers as carpenters worked on the inaugural parade reviewing stand in front of the White House.

Secretary Lansing refused absolutely to say a word he left. He climbed hurriedly into his carriage. Pressed with questions, he exclaimed: "Please don't ask me."

Carriage Dashed Off.

With that he called out to his coachman, and as he slammed shut the door the carriage dashed away.

Mr. Lansing did not, however, return to the State Department, but went directly home to lunch, indicating perhaps that he had left with the President the text of the communication he had prepared.

Rumors were afloat that it had been decided to make no announcement of the course of action decided upon until the Navy Department had perfected certain steps to protect American shipping.

SECRETARY BAKER TO SPEAK.

Secretary of War Baker will speak at a meeting of the Washington Society of Fine Arts next Thursday evening at Central High School.

Other speakers will be Col. W. W. Harts, in charge of public buildings and grounds; Congressman Slayden of Texas, chairman of the Library Committee of the House, and Commissioner Newman.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

District of Columbia—Fair and decidedly colder tonight and Friday, with severe wave Friday. Lowest temperature tonight about 20 degrees. Fresh to strong northwest winds.

Maryland—Partly cloudy and decidedly colder tonight and Friday, with severe cold wave. Northwest gales.

Virginia—Generally fair and decidedly colder tonight and Friday, with a severe cold wave. Northwest gales diminishing Friday.

Temperatures.

8 a. m. 50
9 a. m. 44
10 a. m. 46
11 a. m. 47
12 noon 51
1 p. m. 47
2 p. m. 48

Tide Table.

High tides: 3:26 a. m., height 2.0
3:57 p. m., height 2.4
Low tides: 1:01 a. m., height 0.1
10:45 p. m., height 0.1

Sun and Moon Table.

Sun rises 7:15 a. m.
Sun sets 5:28 p. m.
Moon rises 12:37 p. m.
Moon sets 9:19 a. m.

Light automobile lamps 5:58 p. m.

As fine
a Suit

As any
man could
want

\$16.50

WILL buy any
Man's Suit
in our stock.

Values from
\$25 to \$35.

STINEMETZ

F Street Cor. 12th
Evening Clothes NOT Included.

To-Kalon
White Grape Juice
(Non-Alcoholic)

Will contribute immeasurably to
the enjoyment of young people's
parties and receptions.

60c the full quart.
\$7.00 the dozen.
TO-KALON CO., Inc.
405 F St. N. W. Phone Main 996

"PEPCO" HEARING FEATURED BY TILT

Commissioner Newman and Attorney Barbour Engage in Wordy Altercation.

CONCEIVERS' ITEM CAUSE

Lawyer Claims District Official Was Guilty of Persistent Interruptions.

Discussion of the item "compensation to conceivers, \$650,000," included in the valuation of Harold Almer, expert for the company, led to a sharp tilt today between Commissioner Newman and John S. Barbour, counsel for the Potomac Electric Power Company, at the hearing before the Public Utilities Commission on the valuation of the company's properties today.

Interrupting Mr. Barbour in his argument that this item was a proper item to be included in the cost of reproduction as well as the historical cost, Mr. Newman said:

"It is with difficulty that I can remember that I am a gentleman and continue to listen to this line of argument. The Commissioner had by several previous questions indicated that he strongly disagreed with Mr. Barbour's views.

Claims Interruptions.

"I am frank in saying," replied the attorney, "that I am under equal restraint. I have been constantly interrupted by the Commissioner with questions not altogether pertinent. If I am infringing on the patience of the commission, I am willing to end my argument at this point."

"The best way to arrive at a quick conclusion for me is to make no further interruptions," said Commissioner Newman.

Items For Entertainment.

Mr. Almer when on the stand was subjected to a lengthy cross-examination by Conrad H. Syme, general counsel for the commission, concerning the item of compensation for conceivers. The item stated that part of such sum was expected to be spent in the "entertainment" of persons whose influence was desired in the securing of franchises. Such expenditure, he declared to be well recognized and legitimate.

Expense Necessary.

Turning to the item of \$700,000 for brokerage and commission, which was allowed by Mr. Almer, but not included in the Pillsbury report, Mr. Barbour declared this to be one of the necessary expenses of financing the company. It is just as necessary he declared, to pay the owners or dealers in capital something over and above the actual cost of that capital, if used in the construction and equipment of a plant such as that of the Potomac Electric Power Company as it is to pay the owner of or dealer in brick and mortar.

Reference was made to Mr. Pillsbury's testimony that his specific instructions were that he should have nothing to do with anything but physical property.

Barbour Cites Decisions.

Referring to the item of \$2,500,000 for property rights in easements, included in the Almer report, Mr. Barbour quoted a number of decisions to show that consideration should be given the values of franchises and easements.

Failure to include property rights in easements, he said, amount to confiscation in that a fair rate of return to that extent is denied. A utility, he declared has the right to a reasonable rate of return upon the fair value of its property and the Constitution of the United States protects such a utility from any impairment of its rights.

WALL CAVES IN.

Part of a wall between the works of the Spicer Tabulating Machine Company, 3320 Volta place northwest, and a stable at 3318 Volta place caved in today. There were about fifteen men working in the machine company's plant, but they were some distance away.

NATURALIZATION OF ALIENS IS SET BACK

Washington Night Schools Face Difficulty of Reaching Different Colonies.

In Washington, Capital of the nation, the movement for Americanization of foreigners through night school instruction, seems to have attained less headway than it has in the great majority of the nearly 1,000 communities now co-operating with the Bureau of Naturalization, Department of Labor, in this effort.

This is the indication of figures given out today by Raymond F. Crist, deputy commissioner of naturalization, who has been in direct charge of this movement.

Mr. Crist has no complaint to make of the work the night schools are doing here, but he does not believe there are nearly enough of them to meet the city's needs.

Has No Colonies.

"The difficulty with Washington, and the reason, perhaps, that this condition is not realized is that there are no colonies of foreigners of certain nationalities," Mr. Crist said. "They are scattered all over the District. That is what makes it hard to reach them with night schools, and that is why the schools should be scattered about within easy reach of those in each section."

This distribution, as shown by the most recent figures available, included 1,175 in Anacostia; 2,023 in the rest of the southeast; 3,121 in the northeast; 969 in the northeast suburban area; 3,126 in the northwest section north of Florida avenue; 10,511 in the northwest south of Florida avenue; 4,221 in southwest Washington; 813 in Georgetown, and 342 to the northwest of Georgetown.

Apply For Citizenship.

In the past year about 800 persons, including wives of the men, applied for citizenship papers here. Names of each, in accordance with the plan now being carried out all over the country, were sent to the superintendent of schools.

During August and September, for example, fifty-three names were sent, and of these but ten lived within twelve blocks of the Jefferson night school, at Four-and-a-half and D street southwest.

Only fourteen lived within a similar radius of the Thompson School, at Thirteenth and L streets. This left forty-nine living at a distance greater from night school than they could conveniently go. For most of them work long hours and can barely spend the time needed for attending school, much less added time spent in going and returning.

Recently the situation has been slightly improved by the opening of the Madison Night School, at Tenth and G streets northeast.

Nineteen nationalities were represented in considerable numbers among the foreign born residents of Washington in 1910, and 402 were classed as coming from "other countries." Since then many more nationalities have become represented here, Mr. Crist said. Those who were here have increased their number considerably. Then there were but 342 Greeks in Washington, now it is estimated that there are nearly 1,200 here.

PLAN CARNIVAL.

The woman's guild of Petworth M. E. Church will give an entertainment and "carnival of nations" at the church, New Hampshire avenue and Grant Circle, every evening next week except Saturday.

ITALIAN WOMEN FOR WAR AID.

MILAN (via Paris), Feb. 1.—A committee has been formed to organize the mobilization of Italian women for war work, following the example set in France and England. Similar committees will be formed in the various cities in Italy.

The PALAIS ROYAL

A. LISNER

HOURS: 9 to 6

G STREET



Drugs, Notions and Toilet Articles

At Extraordinary Savings

In Conjunction With Our

Tri-Annual Brush and Mirror Sale

Hairbrushes, 39c
Guaranteed

You need only this assurance—that not one brush has defective bristles, and that each bristle is a hog's bristle, and not the fiber makeshift you too often find. A new brush for any that fails. How many fail? Thousands are distributed during these periodical sales. Not one sold in the last October sale has yet been returned.

THIS SALE
Tomorrow

Last Sale Next Sale
Last October Next May

The first of these periodical sales of Brushes and Mirrors occurred in October, six years ago, when a contract was made with the leading makers to periodically distribute all their surplus production and "seconds." The first sale resulted in the distribution of more than 2,000 of these Brushes and Mirrors. Each succeeding sale greater numbers—in two instances the supply did not equal the demand.

Hand Mirrors, 29c
Guaranteed

Some idea of the size of these Mirrors is gleaned when you glance at the width of four columns of your Times and learn that the smallest mirror is as wide as these four columns. Each Mirror guaranteed without speck or flaw. You'll overlook the scratches on the frames that lower the price to only 29c. Seconds—but none hurt to hurt.

Guaranteed Tooth Brushes and Whisk Brooms, 9c
As With the Hair Brushes—a New Tooth Brush or Whisk Broom For Any That Fails

Water Bottles,
Fountain Syringes

2-quart size, guaranteed for one year, standard at \$1.00.

69c

Rubber Gloves,
Price, Per Pair

25c

The gloves needed in every home—every pair guaranteed.

Notions at Reduced Prices for One Day Only

At 3c

3c Cabinet Wire Hairpins at... 3c
3c Bostonian Collar Supporters,
5 on card 3c
3c Kirby-Heard Invisible Hair-
pins 3c
3c Lace Wire, black and white;
each 3c
3c Asbestos Iron Holders, each... 3c
3c Brass Pins, paper 3c
3c Button Hooks, each 3c

At 5c

5c Defender Steel Safety Pins, 3
for 5c
5c Shoe Laces, 5-4 and 6-4
lengths; 2 for 5c
5c Shoe Trees, best quality;
pair 5c
5c Crimping Pins, 2 for 5c
5c Celluloid Thimbles, all colors;
2 for 5c
5c Shoe Buttons, white, tan,
black; 3 cards 5c
5c Dutch Linen Tape, 2 for 5c

At 7c

12c 24-yd. Tape, white only 7c
5c Tomato Preservers, 2 for 7c
10c Dust Caps, assorted colors;
each 7c
12c Laundry Wax, doz. 7c
5c Mercerized Darning Cotton, 2
for 7c
12c Covered Coat Hangers, each 7c
12c Sew-on Supporters, white, 2
for 7c
5c Paper Millard's Needles, 2
for 7c

At 10c

10c Royal Sewing Silk, 100 yards,
2 for 10c
5c Windsor Hooks and Eyes, 1
card 10c
12 and 15c Dress Shields, sizes
1, 2, 4, 5 10c
5c Stocking Darners, assorted
colors; 3 for 10c
5c Tape Measures, 60 inches; 1
for 10c
5c Tracing Wheels, 3 for 10c

CLARK'S O. N. T. SPOOL COTTON, DOZEN, 40c

Drug Department

Offers Savings in Every Item in This Advertisement

25c Laxative Bromo Quinine 17c
\$1.00 Father John's Medicine 79c
\$1.00 Wampole's Cod Liver Oil (genuine) 71c
50c Diapensin 39c
25c Bromo Seltzer 17c
35c Castoria
(Fletcher's) 21c
50c Regulon 39c
25c Sloan's Liniment 19c
35c Freezone 29c
\$1.00 Pinkham's Veg-
etable Compound 75c
25c Juniper Tar 19c
50c Borden's Milk 40c
2 doz. Aspirin Tab. 25c
50c Syrup Pepsin
(Caldwell's) 39c
50c Doan's Pills 39c
25c Mentholatum 14c

\$1.00 Swamp Root 75c
50c Pazo Ointment 39c
50c California
Syrup of Figs 39c
50c Cuticura Oint 39c
25c Carter's Liver
Pills 14c
50c Phillips' Milk
Magnesia 33c
75c Mellin's Food 55c
50c Baume
Analgesique 39c
25c Resinol Soap 18c
50c Resinol Oint 39c
35c Lapactic Pills 25c

First Floor—Near Elevators.

THE Basement Store

The word "bargain" is given its proper meaning in this Palais Royal Basement Store—and February of 1917 is to be a Bargain Month long remembered. Frequent visits are advised—bargains will be coming and going daily. The following for tomorrow:



Gowns That You Will Value at
\$1.00 Here Tomorrow at 79c

Also Petticoats and Envelope Chemise, equally dainty styles. Real bargains at 79c—they'll not linger. On sale tomorrow morning. Palais Royal Basement Store.

Corset Covers
43c

Elaborately embroidered with
guaranteed to wash laces and
embroideries. They are real
bargains.

Bed Spreads
\$1.29

Crochet, in Marseilles ef-
fects, single and full bed sizes.
Real bargains—fully worth
\$1.98, at only \$1.29.

Petticoats at 39c and 59c

Three lots, bargains that will be quickly distributed.

Lot 1—at 39c—Petticoats of navy blue satine, with 14-inch pleated ruffle. Lot 2—at 59c—Striped black moire petticoats, cut very full through the hips; the deep flounce with two ruffles. Lot 3—at 59c—Petticoats of superior gingham, guaranteed fast colors; regular and extra sizes at only 59c.



Pillow Cases, 11c

Hemmed, ready to use; size 42x36
at 11c; size 45x36 at 14c.

Sheets, 43c, 69c, 79c

With three (3) inch hems. Size
72x90 at 43c and 69c; size 81x90 at 79c.

Blankets, Extra Heavy \$1.49 Pair

Look ahead to "the Fourth"—and secure these Blankets while they are to be had. Extra heavy, white, with pink and blue borders, looking worth twice \$1.49.
Palais Royal Basement Store.

For Nervous People
Syrup of Hypophosphites puts
"pep" into nervous,
tired people. Doc-
tors recognize it as
most beneficial and
prescribe it as an
aid to raised
worn-out nerves. In
sleeplessness and
in lung trouble,
the bottle of
Syrup of
Hypophos-
phites 49c

Glycerine Suppositories
Relieve constipa-
tion without in-
ternal medication.
One dozen in
glass bottle;
either adults or
infants. Regular
25c. Special for
tomorrow sale 19c

Powdered Alum, 16 oz., at 12c
Powdered Boric Acid, 16 oz., at 18c
Comp. Licorice Powder, 2 oz., at 6c
Epsom Salt, 16 oz., at 5c
Cream Tartar, 4 oz., at 16c
Grain Alcohol, 8 oz., at 25c
Glycerin, 4 oz., at 25c
Camphorated Oil, 2 oz., at 10c
Spirit Camphor, 2 oz., at 11c
Ess. Jamaica Ginger, 2 oz., at 10c
Castor Oil, 4 oz., at 10c
Brown Mixture Liquid, 4 oz., at 12c
Seidlitz Powders, 10 in tin, at 18c
Chloroform Liniment, 3 oz., at 12c
Powdered Borax, 16 oz., at 10c

—Added Special—
35c Gem, Jr., Razor
Blades, 7 in Pkg.,
23c

—Added Special—
25c Bauer & Block
Belladonna Plasters,
10c

Palais Royal—Street Floor—Facing Elevators.

New York **Christine** Philadelphia
1113 G Street N. W.
SPECIAL For Thursday, Friday & Saturday
**1/2 COATS
2 PRICE**

Here is a rare opportunity to get
exceptional values in Smart Coats
of fashionable colors. Plain and fur
trimmed, including Bolivia cloth.

All \$19.50 Coats \$9.75
All \$25.00 Coats \$12.50
All \$29.50 Coats \$14.75
All \$35.00 Coats \$17.50
All \$45.00 Coats \$22.50
All \$49.50 Coats \$24.75

Come early and get first choice as
these great bargains will be snapped
up quickly.

ALL WINTER SUITS HALF PRICE

Crope de Chine Waists; some slightly
soiled. Former price \$2.95 \$1.50

Taffeta Charmeuse and Serge Dresses.
Values up to \$25.00 \$10.00

Special Value in Straw and Satin Hats, \$3.50

Advance Showing of Spring Suits, Gowns, and
Millinery Moderately Priced.